

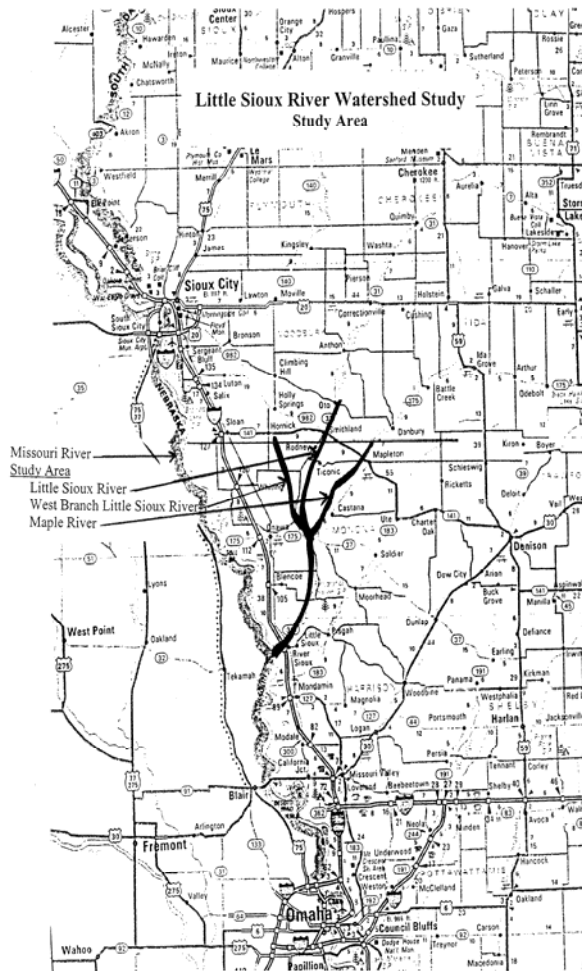


US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Omaha District

Little Sioux River Watershed, Northwestern Iowa

Authority: Section 22, Planning Assistance to States and Tribes,
Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1974, 1990

Sponsor: Iowa Department of Natural Resources



LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: The Little Sioux watershed is located in northwestern Iowa. The river drains into the left bank of the Missouri River through Woodbury, Monona, and Harrison Counties.

PROBLEM AND NEED: In the 1950s, the lower portion of the Little Sioux River and tributaries were channelized to facilitate agricultural practices in the valleys. These levees constricted the natural flows of the river and have reduced connectivity with the oxbows and wetlands. Several wetlands have a reduced flow, and some oxbow lakes are unconnected with the flow regime. A water resources planning study is beginning to address the needs associated with environmental and ecosystem restoration, recreation and economic development, and flood control. Outcomes include the feasibility of increasing the flood plain connectivity, creating fish bypasses, and reconnecting the upland terrestrial riparian habitat.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FY07: Phase 1 of the study will look at the alternatives within the watershed, focusing on the opportunities to increase the environmental and ecosystem value, increase the recreational opportunities within and adjacent to the project area, address erosion issues, and identify opportunities to enhance flood control.

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: Although the cost-share is with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, many other state agencies are involved and interested in the study. Opportunities will be identified in Phase 1 and analyzed in Phase 2; a recommended plan will be developed in Phase 3. Acquisition strategies will cover all sources of funding and expertise. The recommended plan will be refined through agency and public meetings.

Financial Data	Amount
FY07 Anticipated Allocation	TBD /1
FY08 Budget Request	\$0 /2
FY08 Capability	\$30,000 /2

/1 – 50-50 Cost Share Authority Section 22 of WRDA 1986. Their 50 percent will be in-kind work.

/2 – The Section 22 study/work will be completed in FY07.